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**CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
Cecil County Administration Building  
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

February 17, 2023

The Honorable Luke Clippinger  
The Honorable David Moon  
House Judiciary Committee  
Room 101  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 430 - Police Immunity and Accountability Act  
Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairman Clippinger, Vice Chair Moon and Members of the House Judiciary Committee.

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously opposes HB 430 - Police Immunity and Accountability Act. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on February 21, 2023.

It is our understanding that this legislation will specifically state that a police officer who subjects or causes to be subjected any individual to the deprivation of certain rights under the Maryland Constitution or the U.S. Constitution is liable for certain damages; establishing that a police officer is not immune from civil or criminal liability for violations of another individual's constitutional rights; requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to review certain cases brought under the Act and so forth.

It is Cecil County's belief that this legislation would have the unintended consequence on law enforcement recruitment which has already forced the hand in other jurisdictions of law enforcement agencies to lower their standards for hiring, thus causing the problem that this bill is aimed at aiding. Furthermore, this type of legislation puts not only our law enforcement officers, but all government employees and elected officials on a slippery slope of litigation while performing in our official capacity.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully requests that the House Judiciary Committee send an unfavorable report on HB 430.

Sincerely,

  
Danielle Hornberger  
County Executive

  
Jackie Gregory  
President of County Council